

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
11 RYE STREET
EAST WINDSOR CT, 06088**

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

I. Call to Order

First Selectman Denise Menard called the Regular Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.

II. Attendance

Denise Menard, First Selectwoman
Alan Baker, Deputy First Selectman
Dale Nelson, Selectwoman
Richard P. Pippin, Jr., Selectman
James C. Richards, Selectman

III. Added Agenda Items

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of April 2, 2013

It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Pippin) that the Board of Selectmen approves the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2013 with the following correction:

Page 5, Item C, second paragraph should read:

It was MOVED (Richards) and SECONDED (Nelson) that the Board of Selectmen will allow the farmer's market to be sponsored by the Town of East Windsor after review by CIRMA. Any recommendations by CIRMA must be followed by the Agricultural Commission.

PASSED (4-0) (In favor – A. Baker, D. Nelson, R. Pippin and J. Richards; Opposed – none)

B. Special Meeting of April 30, 2013

Approval of the April 30, 2013 Special Meeting minutes was postponed to the next Board of Selectmen Meeting.

V. Communications

A. Community Day Proclamation

B. Minutes of March 27, 2013 Board of Finance Budget Public Hearing

VI. Selectmen's Reports

A. Denise Menard, First Selectwoman

Ms. Menard report is attached hereto as Attachment A.

B. Alan Baker, Deputy First Selectman

Mr. Baker reported that the American Heritage River Commission ("AHRC") did a river cleanup. The AHRC will be active with the CT Trails Day hike in Melrose on June 2, a CT Water Trails Day water trip on June 9 and the Cardboard Boat Race/Skate Park Duck Race on June 30.

C. Dale Nelson, Selectwoman

Ms. Nelson reported that she attended a condo meeting. The residents have expressed interest in participating in Town boards and commissions. She attended a Warehouse Point Fire Department meeting. They have 7 new firefighters. The Warehouse Point Fire Marshall stated that she is busy with the Walmart construction

D. Richard Pippin Jr., Selectman

Mr. Pippin reported that the Building Committee reviewed the condition of the Town Hall Annex. They are awaiting a report on a roof issue from Mr. Borup. Mr. Pippin reported he attended a Water Pollution Control Authority meeting that discussed planning for capital projects in their budget. He also attended an Inland Wetlands Commission meeting. He commented that the Commission had very good training on procedures for motions on applications to ensure motions are correctly stated to prevent court challenges.

E. James Richards

Mr. Richards stated that although he was not able to make the Board of Education meeting, he attended the Economic Development Commission meeting.

VII. Public Participation

Mr. John Mannette of Old Ellington Road spoke about his displeasure with the reported changes to the Police Pension Plan and stated that reverting the police back to a defined benefit plan would be too costly for the Town.

Mr. Andy Heath of Steeple Chase Road stated that he is active in the East Windsor Condo Association which is an association of 14 condominium complexes with 1,000 voters. He reported that the group advocates passing the budget and hope in the future the Town can consider paying for condominium streetlights.

Mr. Robert Little of Rockville Road stated that the Pension Board has no authority to negotiate contracts and that if employees are unhappy with the benefits offered by the Town they can find employment elsewhere.

VIII. Board and Commission Appointments

- A. **Resignations:** None
- B. **Re-appointments:** None
- C. **New Appointments:**

American Heritage River Commission

Susan Gaffney (U), Alternate Member, to fill a term expiring 8/1/2015

It was MOVED by D. Nelson, SECONDED by A. Baker that the Board of Selectmen appoints Ms. Susan Gaffney as an Alternate Member of the American Heritage River Commission, to fill a term expiring August 1, 2015.

PASSED (4-0) (In favor – A. Baker, R. Pippin, D. Nelson, and J. Richards; Opposed – None)

IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business

A. Park and Recreation presentation of Limerick contest winners

The Limerick Contest winners were unable to attend the meeting.

B. Approval of Tax Transfers

It was MOVED by J. Richards, SECONDED by D. Nelson that the Board of Selectmen approves tax refunds:

- dated 3/13/2013 in the amount of \$662.48,
- dated 4/8/2013 in the amount of \$2,573.84, and
- dated 4/29/2013 in the amount of \$1,670.04

as recommended by the Tax Collector.

PASSED (4-0)(In Favor – A. Baker, R. Pippin, D. Nelson, and J. Richards; Opposed – None)

XI. Budget Matters

A. Budget Discussion FY 2012-13; FY 2013-2014

None

B. Budget Transfers

It was MOVED by R. Pippin, SECONDED by D. Nelson that the Board of Selectmen approves Budget Transfers:

- #2013-23 in the amount of \$555 to cover a shortfall in the CIP Reserve-Assessor Revaluation Acct for 3/14/2013 payroll revaluation overtime, and
- #2013-24 in the amount of \$10 to open a budget line for bank analysis fees.

XII. Ongoing Charter Review

The Board of Selectmen discussed the Charter Chapters 1, 2 and 3. Discussion of the chapters is attached hereto as Attachment B.

XIII. Executive Session:

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200 (6) (a) Personnel, & Litigation

It was MOVED by J Richards, SECONDED by D Nelson that the Board of Selectmen enter into an Executive Session to preserve confidentiality.

PASSED (4-0) (In favor – J. Richards, R. Pippin, D. Nelson, A. Baker; Opposed – none)

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 9:09 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, made by D. Nelson, seconded by R Pippin at 9:09.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Menard
Temporary Recording Secretary

ATTACHMENT A

May 7, 2013

My report to the Board of Selectmen

It's been a while since we've all shared information during a Selectmen's meeting as we worked through the budget process. I'd like to begin with a moment of silence for the passing of George Butenkoff. . . . George was a key member of the Veteran's Commission, instrumental in the establishment of the Veteran's Cemetery. He was also very active with the Historical Society and was a one of the key people relied on to help at Town meetings and elections.

The Board's aggressive stand on collecting back taxes has led to a couple of surprise news articles. There have been some taxpayers that were quite upset but the process the Tax Collector has in place is fair and consistent . . . and successful. She currently has collected \$200,000 over the budgeted amount for 2012-2013. Specific to the homes on South Road, the owners of the homes are in no danger of losing their homes. The last time I spoke with representatives from the homeowners, they were getting together to weigh their best options for finding a way to become owners of the land their home sit on. That property is owned by Creative Housing, the entity that we are in the process of collecting back paid taxes from. Once I hear of resolution of that tax issue, I will let you know.

Prior to the Board of Selectmen's discussion regarding decisions made by the Pension Board, the Pension Administrator/Treasurer Cathy Cabral had requested an opinion from the Town Attorney regarding who has authority regarding pension matters. I have attached a copy of the opinion to my report. As you will see, the Pension Board is the governing body for "pension" decisions. Additionally, for the record, I would like to correct an error in reporting in the Journal Inquirer regarding the Selectmen's discussion (I spoke with the reporter about the difference in what was reported and what is actually being considered). The new "hybrid defined contribution/defined benefit" option being looked at by the Pension Board is not a change to the current pension agreement which would open the entire agreement to negotiation. Rather what is being considered is an additional option that would give the affected employees a plan that is well thought out and competitive with other communities' plans. Again, I urge anyone interested to attend the next Pension Board meeting on May 22.

Len Norton and I have expressed our concern to the DOT about the eastbound lane of Rte 140 at the top of the hill just before the light at Main Street, Broad Brook. It appears to be deteriorating more with each month that the State waits to address the problem. They have been aware of the issue however, we are asking for some assurance that they will be addressing the problem soon. They have acknowledged receipt of our concern.

Since we have new organizers for this year's Community Day this Saturday, I checked with Chief DeMarco yesterday to see if the Police Department had been contacted about assisting.

He said they had not heard from anyone but knew it was scheduled for this Saturday and they will be there. The Chief will be donating his time with appropriate coverage done with the staff on duty.

I understand the Selectmen have not gotten new Town ID. They are available at the Police Department. The process is being handled by Maria Diana-Root in the Chief's office. Just let her know you are coming down to be sure she is there and available.

I have again been approached by a local landscaper about adopting a "Welcome to East Windsor" sign. I explained that the sign he wanted to landscape is on property owned privately. He said he knows the owner of the property and may talk to them. He also expressed interest in "adopting" the front of Town Hall. If his interest continues, we will likely have discussion of his proposal on the next agenda.

This Friday, the Town's Risk Management Committee is receiving an award from CIRMA for making risk management a priority in our workplace. We are honored to receive this recognition, approximately 10 communities in the state are receiving some kind of recognition at the event.

Vacancy updates -

- We have offered one of many applicants the custodian position vacated by Hector Berrios.
- The Maintainer for Public Works and the Receptionist/Secretary in the Selectman's office have both been advertised. We look forward to filling those positions soon.
- The clerical position at the Senior Center has been held up by the absence of the supervisor. This is a priority and will be addressed as soon as possible.

Carol Madore has requested that we delay the planned Request for Proposal (RFP) for the services done by a contractor in the Assessor's office, therefore that contracted service is on hold. As we get closer to completion of the extensive IT project, I will be putting together an RFP for ongoing IT support for the Town. Alan let me know if you are still interested in working on that.

Upcoming dates to remember:

May 14	Budget Referendum
May 18	Community Day
May 26	Melrose Memorial Day Service
May 27	Town Memorial Day Parade and Service
June 12	Chamber of Commerce's celebration of Businessman of the Year Jim Nilsson

ATTACHMENT B

Charter review – Chapters 1, 2, 3

Charter		
Page	Section	Comments
5	1-4	There was general agreement that the Board of Selectmen should do a review of the Town's Ordinances after completion of review of the Charter
6	2-1C (2)	Staggered 4 year terms for Board of Selectmen, there was disagreement on the 4 year proposal and disagreement on the staggered terms, there was also a suggestion to keep things as they are
7	2-1 C 10	3 Selectmen questioned the need for Constables, one Selectman was comfortable having them continue in the Charter
8	2--3	Question was raised as to why we have 2 voting districts
9	2-5	Can a person that owes back taxes, liens, judgments or lawsuits with the Town be excluded from running for office
General comment		Charter should cite specific Connecticut General Statute wherever possible
9	2-7 (B)	Does position have to be file by same party - look for ways to avoid special election, possibly by opening vacancy to all parties after 45 days
10	3-2 (D)	One Selectman felt once seated, an alternate should remain in place of the missing member until a decision is reached, a Selectmen disagreed, no consensus